

**REMARKS**

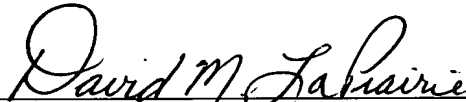
After entry of the subject Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-18 remain in the application with claims 1 and 17 in independent form. More specifically, in this amendment, claims 1, 3-4, 6-8, and 10-17 have been amended, claim 18 has been added, and claims 2, 5 and 9 remain unchanged. The specification has been amended to state the claim of priority in addition to the claim of priority which is stated on Transmittal Form PTO-1390. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our deposit account no. 08-2789 for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

**HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.**

Date: August 11, 2006

  
**David M. LaPrairie, Registration No. 46,295**  
The Pinehurst Office Center, Suite 101  
39400 Woodward Avenue  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-5151  
(248) 723-0442